

COUNTRY: Austria (Soviet Zone)

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SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT NO.

25X1A

TOPIC: Soviet Troops in Camp Spratzern, St. Poelten and Lauer-Oehling

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EVALUATION: see below PLACE OBTAINED: [redacted] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT: 19 and 21 September 1951

DATE OBTAINED: [redacted] 25X1A DATE PREPARED: 18 October 1951

REFERENCES: [redacted] 25X1A

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE): 2

REMARKS:

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[redacted]

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Camp Spratzern.

1. On 21 September 1951, Camp Spratzern near St. Poelten (O 49/W 86) was only lightly occupied. From 80 to 90 soldiers were seen outside the billets, and training activity was noticed only at the training site south of the camp which is criss-crossed by ditches, 3 or 4 meters deep. Crews, who were frequently exchanged, practiced cross-country driving with two SP guns which had 6 bogie wheels and three track-supporting rollers per side, a rigid square superstructure to the rear of the center, a gun with a muzzle brake, not projecting beyond the bow, and white numerical designations 231 and 234.

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St. Poelten.

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2. On 19 September, about 100 soldiers, [redacted] were engaged in close-order drill and rifle practice in the billeting area west of the Schiesstattring. With the exception of these troops and some personnel using the gate of the Franz Josef Kaserne, no movements or weapons were seen in the billeting area. An unidentified number of garages, a motor vehicle repair shop, probably an ammunition dump, and a kitchen also belonged to the installation. About 10 motor vehicles were seen in the barracks yard.

3. Several telephone lines converged at the former Kreisgericht (country court building). \*\* The inscription "Officers' Loss" in Cyrillic letters was observed at the building of the former Stadtsaele [redacted]

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4. No activity was observed at the Soviet komendatura at 37 Linzer Strasse. Trucks carrying boxes were seen at a factory-like installation on Wiener Strasse, about 500 meters east of the Traisen River. Trucks which repeatedly entered and left the installation [redacted]

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The installation was guarded, and is believed to be a ration supply depot.

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5. Few military personnel were observed at the St. Poelten railroad station. [REDACTED]

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25X1X Mauer-Oehling.

6. On 21 September, training activity was observed on the training ground near Mauer-Oehling (O 49/W 26) which is situated along the railroad line, and is about 2,000 meters long and 300 to 400 meters wide. Infantry weapons, 2 AT guns, 2 light mortars and 1 SP gun without rack-supporting rollers, mounting a short-barrelled gun projecting beyond the bow, were seen on the training area. Infantrymen constructed a wooden bridge across the brook which traversed the training ground. Four motor vehicles, including truck E 4-22-26 were observed with the troops.

25X1A \* [REDACTED] Comment. Since another source stated that Camp Spratzern was only lightly occupied in the second half of August 1951, it was believed that the 150th Tank Regt of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div previously stationed at Camp Spratzern had left the installation. [REDACTED]

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25X1A\* [REDACTED] Comment. According to a previous report, the former Kreisgericht in St. Poelten possibly houses the Hq 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. This may be confirmed by the present report of converging telephone lines. Another source had reported a signal-communications center in the same building.

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